

Message Text

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44

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 OMB-01 OIC-04 ARA-16 EUR-25

NEA-11 DRC-01 /172 W

----- 021929

R 311633Z JAN 74

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2545

INFO AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 0343

EO 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR UN LI CB

SUBJECT: LIBERIAN REACTION TO KHMER QUESTION

1. LIBERIAN PERMREP NATHAN BARNES, AT HIS REQUEST, PAID CALL ON AMB. BENNETT JAN 30 TO DISCUSS CURRENT SITUATION IN CAMBODIA. AMB BARNES RECALLED HE HAD TAKEN INITIATIVE ON KHMER QUESTION AT 28TH GA, AND SIAD HIS GOVERNMENT HAD NOT APPROVED OF HIS ACTION, WHICH WENT BEYOND HIS INSTRUCTION. HE EXPLAINED THAT PRESIDENT TOLBERT HAS MET PRINCE SIHANOUK AT NAC ALGIERS AND HAD BEEN SWAYED BY PRINCE'S ARGUMENTS TO POINT OF ISSUING INSTRUCTIONS TO LIBERIAN UN DELEGATION TO ABSTAIN ON ANY KHMER QUESTION. AMB BARNES HASTENED TO EXPLAIN THAT HE HAS SMOOTHED OVER THE PROBLEMS WHICH AROSE FROM HIS INITIATIVE, BUT NOW WISHED TO SEND A REPORT ON THE CURRENT STATUS IN CAMBODIA BACK TO LIBERIA TO KEEP THEM INFORMED ON THE SITUATION. (COMMENT: USUN BELIEVES THAT THIS MAY HAVE BEEN A WARNING THAT WE CANNOT EXPECT LIBERIANS TO TAKE INITIATIVE OR EVEN COUNT ON THEIR FULL SUPPORT ON KHMER ISSUE IN 29TH GA)

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2. AMB BARNES SAID THAT HE HAD NOT BEEN ABLE TO REACH

KHMER PERM REP IN SEVERAL ATTEMPTS BUT HAD SUCCEEDED IN
CONTRACTING INDONESIAN PERM RE WHO INFORMED HIM THAT LON
NOL GOVERNMENT STILL MAINTAINED CONTROL OF POPULATION
CENTERS. AMBASSADOR BENNETT COMMENTED THAT,
ALTHOUGH NEWSPAPER REPORTS STRESS CONFUSION AND UNCERTAINTY
OF SITUATION, USG DOES NOT BELIEVE PHNOM PENH WILL FALL.
?3,,355 REVERTED TO MATERIAL USED IN RECENT GA DEBATE IN DISCUSSING
MATTER AND POINTED OUT LACK OF POPULAR SUPPORT FOR KHMER
ROUGE AS IMPORTANT FACTOR IN LOOKING AT OVER-ALL PICTURE.
3. IN TAKING HIS LEAVE, AMBASSADOR BARNES MENTIONED IN
PASSING THAT HE IS STILL INTERESTED IN AN APPOINTMENT TO
ICJ AND HOPED TO CONVINCE HIS GOVERNMENT TO PRESS AHEAD
WITH THIS.
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30 JUN 2005

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